

From: Tjedee@cs.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/19/02 11:07pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Justice Department,

Bill Gates's blatant snubbing of anti-trust laws, and his getting by with it this far, is very disturbing to me. Each and every objection he has had to charges and indictments has bordered on preposterous. And the appearance of his buying off his enemies is exceptionally disturbing to me. It confirms yet again that if you have the money, you can get away with anything.

Mr. Gates's claims that Microsoft was merely an innovative company that became obscenely profitable using good old capitalistic tactics. MS software is installed on every computer one buys; the manufacturers have no choice in the matter; and Mr. Gates is clearly responsible for this monopoly.

Having worked in law firms for the past 15 years, I have watched a superior legal word processing system (Word Perfect/Corel) be choked out of existence by MS Windows, an operating system which is ONLY friendly to Microsoft software programs.

I've seen secretaries, paralegals, word processors, lawyers, and computer systems managers struggle for hours and hours, trying to make non-MS software programs work on their PCs. I've seen law firms spend hundreds of thousands of dollars switching everything to Microsoft because MS Outlook would not attach a Word Perfect/Corel document in readable format.

I, like thousands of other consumers, have had no choice but to buy computers with carloads of Microsoft programs already installed -- programs which I did not need, did not want, and did not use, but paid for nonetheless.

Microsoft (Bill Gates) deserves no slack from anyone. He should be prosecuted to the fullest extent. After all, he will still end up the richest man in the world, proving to everyone that unscrupulous business practices do indeed pay off in the U.S.

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